

MEETING OF

THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, February 8, 2006, with the following members in attendance:

In Attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman	Mark Davis, Deputy Principal Assistant (representing Michael T. Scuse, Secretary of Agriculture)
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Ann Visalli Deputy State Treasurer (Representing Jack Markell, State Treasurer)
Lyn Davenport, Secretary	Kevin Coyle (representing John Hughes, Secretary of DNREC)
Dennis Clay, Treasurer	
Alden Hopkins	
W. Allen Jones, Chair of the Governor's Council on Forestry	

Absent: Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Michael McGrath, Milton Melendez, Howard Mesick, Cathy Mesick, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: William Denman, and Phil Tuthill.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. with prayer.

I. Progress Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that we have 601 farms in preservation districts, with 23 farms pending, for a total of 624 farms in preservation comprising 141,525 acres; there are 441 farms, with 79,921 acres in preservation easements and 71 properties currently with 10,879 acres for Purchase of Development Rights Round 11.

II. Expansion Eligibility/Approval

1. The Peet Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District, ID#K-05-11-054K. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Peet Expansion of the Webber-Harrison District, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.** Mark Davis asked that the percentage of impervious cover be checked with Thompson Mapping as it seems to be too high.

2. The Marvel Expansion of the Shadybrook District, ID#K-05-11-141D. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Marvel Expansion of the Shadybrook District, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. The Kramer Expansion of the Exchange Tract District, Ltd., ID#K-05-11-014F. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Kramer Expansion of the Exchange Tract Ltd. District, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**

4. The B & B Expansion of the Severson Gravel Run District, ID#K-05-03-134B. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the B & B Expansion of the Severson Gravel Run District, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**

5. The Minner Expansion of the Kimbowrosa District, ID#K-05-12-233A. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Minner Expansion of the Kimbowrosa District, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.** Mark Davis asked that the high percentage of impervious cover on the report be checked with Thompson Mapping.

6. The Logan Herbert Expansion of the Isaacs #2 Orchard District, ID#S-05-11-155B. After discussion, **William Vanderwende moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Logan Herbert Expansion of the Isaacs #2 Orchard District, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**
 7. The John Herbert Expansion of the Isaacs #2 Orchard District, ID#S-05-11-115A. After discussion, **Lyn Davenport moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Herbert Expansion of the Isaacs #2 Orchard District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
 8. The S & E Steen Expansion of the Chipman District, ID #S-05-11-080E. After discussion, **Mark Davis moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the S & E Steen Expansion of the Chipman District, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**
 9. The Kate Hedges Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, ID#S-05-11-151B. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Kate Hedges Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**
 10. Stevenson Homestead Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, ID#S-05-11-151C. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Stevenson Homestead Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, seconded by Dennis Clay. Motion unanimously approved.**
 11. Harold Stevenson Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, ID#S-05-10-151A. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Harold Stevenson Expansion of the Kruger Farms #1 District, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion unanimously approved.**
- III. Public Comments – Mr. Phil Tuthill brought up the newspaper article concerning the New Castle County \$3M match with the Foundation for Purchase of Development Rights Round 12. Michael McGrath mentioned that in addition to the \$3M match for PDR 12, we may also receive almost the same amount as a match for PDR 13 and 14. Mr. McGrath also mentioned that New Castle County has formed a committee to select the farms which will receive development right money. We are planning on doing mailings and press releases as well as holding a meeting in Middletown concerning this match money from New Castle County to encourage New Castle County landowners to apply.
- IV. Minutes – Vice Chairman Vanderwende asked if there were additions or corrections to the January 11, 2006 minutes. Receiving no additions or corrections to the minutes, **William Vanderwende moved the minutes be approved, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
- V. Financial Highlights
- Cathy Mesick informed the Foundation Board that we had, as of January 31, 2006, \$25,050.51 in the Foundation's checking account. The Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account had a balance of \$312,660.73. Revenue for the month of January totaled \$276.75 which came from Sussex County rollback taxes and several donations. Expenditures for the month of January totaled \$7,599.05. After discussion, **Dennis Clay moved to accept the Financial Report as presented, seconded by Lyn Davenport. Motion unanimously approved.**

Michael McGrath informed the Board that our outside Federal audit was finished and it seemed to be satisfactory to the auditors. We should be receiving the results soon.

Michael McGrath also informed the Board that American Farmland Trust will be holding their annual meeting in Newark, Delaware, Clayton Hall, University of Delaware. We are sponsoring this AFT event, along with the Delaware Department of Agriculture. Mr. McGrath suggested to the Board that the Foundation help with the funding of this annual meeting by allocating funding up to \$12,500.00 which would cover one half of the cost of a sponsorship for this event. We could use monies earned from the interest on our State of Delaware savings

account. The money earned since the inception of this account totals approximately \$32,000.00. One of the key speakers at this even is Mr. Michael Ableman who has been a key person in the development of organic food. Mr. Ableman was born and raised in Delaware.

VII. Executive Session – No Executive Session was necessary.

VIII. Other Business

1. Murderkill River Estate Expansion of the Miller District, ID#K-98-12-005A – Easement Request for Utility Pipeline.

Ms. Robin West explained that the agreement has not as yet been completed and this matter will have to be tabled until the next Foundation meeting in March.

2. Discuss changes in LESA Scoring.

Michael McGrath explained that it will be necessary to implement a new strategy map based on the new LESA scoring system. Our present strategy map is from 2001, so a change is certainly needed.

Mr. Vanderwende asked what was happening with the Gallo/Gannon property line dispute. Mr. McGrath stated that the surveyor has not presented the results to our attorney and we shall be giving our surveyor until March 1st to finish the work and provide the results to our attorney.

Mr. Dennis Clay informed the Board that he will not be renewing his membership with the Board, but has asked the Governor to accept his resignation and appoint a new member.

IX. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on March 8, 2006 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn Davenport
Secretary